

**PASADENA PRIVATE WEALTH, LLC**

**FORM ADV PART 2A**

**BROCHURE**

**Item 1 – Cover Page**

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Pasadena Private Wealth, LLC. If you have any questions regarding the contents of this brochure, please do not hesitate to contact our Chief Compliance Officer, Michael J. Shuckerow, Jr., by telephone at (646) 483-7217 or by email at [mikeshuckerow@gmail.com](mailto:mikeshuckerow@gmail.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Pasadena Private Wealth, LLC is a registered investment advisor. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training. Additional information about Pasadena Private Wealth, LLC is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

March 28, 2018

## **Item 2 – Material Changes**

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisors to amend their brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an advisor's disclosure brochure, the advisor is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

As Pasadena Private Wealth, LLC is a newly-registered investment advisor, there are no material changes to disclose.

### Item 3 - Table of Contents

Item 1 – Cover Page.....	1
Item 2 – Material Changes.....	2
Item 3 - Table of Contents .....	3
Item 4 - Advisory Business.....	5
A. Description of the Advisory Firm.....	5
B. Types of Advisory Services.....	5
C. Client-Tailored Advisory Services .....	6
D. Assets Under Management .....	6
Item 5 - Fees and Compensation.....	6
A. Fee Schedule for Advisory Services.....	6
B. Payment of Fees.....	7
C. Clients Responsible for Fees Charged by Financial Institutions and External Money Managers ...	8
D. Prepayment of Fees.....	8
E. Outside Compensation for the Sale of Securities or Other Investment Products to Clients .....	8
Item 6 - Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management.....	9
Item 7 - Types of Clients .....	9
Item 8 - Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies, and Risk of Loss .....	9
A. Methods of Analysis and Risk of Loss .....	9
B. Material Risks Involved.....	10
Item 9 – Disciplinary Information .....	15
Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations .....	15
Item 11 – Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions.....	16
A. Description of Code of Ethics.....	16
Item 12 – Brokerage Practices .....	16
A. Factors Used to Select Custodians and/or Broker-Dealers .....	16
B. Trade Aggregation .....	20
Item 13 – Review of Accounts.....	21
A. Frequency and Nature of Periodic Reviews and Who Makes Those Reviews .....	21
B. Other Reviews.....	21
C. Content and Frequency of Regular Reports Provided to Clients .....	21
Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation .....	21
A. Economic Benefits Provided by Third Parties for Advice Rendered to Clients .....	21

B. Compensation to non-Supervised Persons for Client Referrals .....	22
Item 15 – Custody .....	22
Item 16 – Investment Discretion .....	22
Item 17 – Voting Client Securities .....	22
Item 18 – Financial Information .....	22
A. Balance Sheet .....	22
B. Financial Conditions Reasonably Likely to Impair Ability to Meet Contractual Commitments to Clients .....	23
C. Bankruptcy Petitions in Previous Years .....	23

## **Item 4 - Advisory Business**

### **A. Description of the Advisory Firm**

Pasadena Private Wealth, LLC (“Pasadena” or the “Firm”) is a limited liability company organized in Delaware. Pasadena is an investment advisory firm registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Pasadena is wholly owned by Pasadena Private Wealth Holdings, LLC. The sole owner of Pasadena Private Wealth Holdings, LLC as of March 28, 2018 is Michael J. Shuckerow.

All statements in this brochure, including those made in the present tense, describe the prospective business of Pasadena.

### **B. Types of Advisory Services**

Pasadena provides holistic and personalized financial planning and discretionary and non-discretionary investment advisory services to individuals, including high net worth individuals, and entities, including, but not limited to, family offices, trusts, estates, private foundations, and qualified retirement plans.

#### **Financial Planning and Consulting Services**

Pasadena provides a variety of basic and comprehensive financial planning and consulting services to clients. Such engagements generally are part of the investment advisory engagement. Generally, such financial planning services will involve preparing a financial plan or rendering a financial consultation based on the client’s financial goals and objectives. This planning or consulting may encompass one or more areas of need, including, but not limited to cash flow analysis, investment planning, retirement planning, estate planning, personal savings, educational savings, liability management, insurance assessment and other areas of a client’s financial situation.

Clients are advised that a conflict of interest exists if pursuant to a separate financial consultation arrangement, Pasadena recommends its own services, as such a recommendation may increase the advisory fees paid to Pasadena. The client is under no obligation to act upon any of the recommendations made by Pasadena under a financial planning or consulting engagement to engage the services of any such recommended professional, including Pasadena itself.

#### **Investment Management Services**

In designing and implementing customized models and portfolio strategies, Pasadena can manage, on a discretionary or nondiscretionary basis, a broad range of investment strategies and vehicles. The Firm provides discretionary management of defined benefit plans. Pasadena primarily allocates client assets among individual debt and equity securities, options, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) in accordance with clients’ investment objectives.

Pasadena may further recommend to clients that all or a portion of their investment portfolio be managed on a discretionary basis by one or more unaffiliated money managers or investment platforms (“External Managers”). The client may be required to enter into a separate agreement with the External Manager(s),

which will set forth the terms and conditions of the client's engagement of the External Manager. Pasadena generally renders services to the client relative to the discretionary selection of External Managers. Pasadena also assists in establishing the client's investment objectives for the assets managed by External Managers, monitors and reviews the account performance and defines any restrictions on the account. The investment management fees charged by the designated External Managers, together with the fees charged by the corresponding designated broker-dealer/custodian of the client's assets, are exclusive of, and in addition to, the annual advisory fee charged by Pasadena.

Pasadena intends to retain experienced investment advisors in the near future to help implement these advisory services. The Firm intends that some of these advisors will become executive officers of the Firm.

### **C. Client-Tailored Advisory Services**

Pasadena provides portfolio management services using investment models designed to meet a variety of client investment objectives. Client portfolios are managed on the basis of individual clients' financial situation and investment objectives. Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on the management of their accounts if Pasadena determines, in its sole discretion, that the conditions would not materially impact the performance of a management strategy or prove overly burdensome for Pasadena's management efforts.

### **D. Assets Under Management**

As of the date of this filing, Pasadena does not have any assets under management. However, Pasadena reasonably anticipates that it will be eligible for registration with the SEC by the end of the 120-day period following its approval as an investment advisor.

## **Item 5 - Fees and Compensation**

### **A. Fee Schedule for Advisory Services**

<b>ADVISORY FEE SCHEDULE</b>	
<b><u>Market Value of Assets</u></b>	<b><u>Blended Rate</u></b>
First \$1,999,999	1.0%
\$2,000,000 to \$4,999,000	.90%
\$5,000,000 to \$9,999,999	.80%
\$10,000,000 to \$14,999,999	.70%
\$15,000,000 to \$24,999,999	.60%
\$25,000,000 to \$49,999,999	.50%
\$50,000,000 to \$99,999,999	.40%
\$100,000,000 and above	Negotiable
The percentage for the highest range of Managed Asset value achieved applies to all Managed Assets, not just Managed Assets in within that range.	

Pasadena charges an annual advisory fee that is agreed upon with each client and set forth in an agreement executed by Pasadena and the client. If fixed, the advisory fee for the initial quarter shall be paid, on a pro rata basis, in arrears, based on the period ending value of the net billable assets under management. For subsequent quarters, the fixed fee shall be paid, in advance, based on the average daily net billable asset value of your accounts through the last day of the previous quarter as provided by third-party sources, such as pricing services, custodians, fund administrators, and client-provided sources. If based on a percentage of the value of assets under management, the advisory fee for the initial quarter shall be paid, on a pro rata basis, in arrears, based on the period ending value of the net billable assets under management. For subsequent quarters, the advisory fee shall be paid, in advance, based on the average daily net billable asset value of your accounts through the last day of the previous quarter as provided by third-party sources, such as pricing services, custodians, fund administrators, and client-provided sources.”

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Pasadena and the client may choose to negotiate an annual advisory fee that varies from the schedule set forth above. Factors upon which a different annual advisory fee may be based include, but are not limited to, the size and nature of the relationship, the services rendered, the nature and complexity of the products and investments involved, time commitments, and travel requirements. The advisory fee charged by the Firm will apply to all of the client’s assets under management, unless specifically excluded in the client agreement. The advisory fee may include the financial planning services described above.

Clients have five (5) business days from the date of execution of the client agreement to terminate Pasadena’s services. The investment advisory agreement between Pasadena and the client may be terminated at will by either Pasadena or the client upon written notice. Pasadena does not impose termination fees when the client terminates the investment advisory relationship, except when agreed upon in advance.

## **B. Payment of Fees**

Pasadena generally deducts its advisory fee from a client’s investment account(s) held at his/her custodian. Upon engaging Pasadena to manage such account(s), a client grants Pasadena this limited authority through a written instruction to the custodian of his/her account(s). The client is responsible to verify the accuracy of the calculation of the advisory fee; the custodian will not determine whether the fee is accurate or properly calculated. See Section A herewith for further information on fee billing. A client may utilize the same procedure for financial planning or consulting fees if the client has investment accounts held at a custodian.

Although clients generally are required to have their investment advisory fees deducted from their accounts, in some cases, Pasadena will directly bill a client for investment advisory fees if it determines that such billing arrangement is appropriate given the circumstances.

The custodian of the client’s accounts provides each client with a statement, at least quarterly, indicating separate line items for all amounts disbursed from the client’s account(s), including any fees paid directly to Pasadena.

Clients may make additions to and withdrawals from their account at any time, subject to Pasadena's right to terminate an account. Additions may be in cash or securities provided that the Firm reserves the right to liquidate transferred securities or decline to accept particular securities into a client's account. Clients may withdraw account assets at any time on notice to Pasadena, subject to the usual and customary securities settlement procedures. However, the Firm generally designs its portfolios as long-term investments and the withdrawal of assets may impair the achievement of a client's investment objectives. Pasadena may consult with its clients about the options and implications of transferring securities. Clients are advised that when transferred securities are liquidated, they may be subject to transaction fees, short-term redemption fees, fees assessed at the mutual fund level (e.g. contingent deferred sales charges) and/or tax ramifications.

### **C. Clients Responsible for Fees Charged by Financial Institutions and External Money Managers**

In connection with Pasadena's management of an account, a client will incur fees and/or expenses separate from Pasadena's advisory fee. These additional fees may include transaction charges and the fees/expenses charged by any custodian, subadvisor, mutual fund, ETF, separate account manager (and the manager's platform manager, if any), limited partnership, or other advisor, transfer taxes, odd lot differentials, exchange fees, interest charges, ADR processing fees, and any charges, taxes or other fees mandated by any federal, state or other applicable law, retirement plan account fees (where applicable), margin interest, brokerage commissions, mark-ups or mark-downs and other transaction-related costs, electronic fund and wire fees, and any other fees that reasonably may be borne by a brokerage account. For External Managers, clients should review each manager's Form ADV 2A disclosure brochure and *any* contract they sign with the External Manager (in a dual contract relationship). The client is responsible for all such fees and expenses. Please see Item 12 of this brochure regarding brokerage practices.

### **D. Prepayment of Fees**

As noted in Item 5(B) above, Pasadena's advisory fees generally are paid in advance. Upon the termination of a client's advisory relationship, Pasadena will issue a refund equal to any unearned management fee for the remainder of the quarter. The client may specify how he/she would like such refund issued (i.e., a check sent directly to the client or a check sent to the client's custodian for deposit into his/her account).

### **E. Outside Compensation for the Sale of Securities or Other Investment Products to Clients**

Pasadena does not buy or sell securities and does not receive any compensation for securities transactions in any client account, other than the investment advisory fees noted above.

Certain Firm representatives who provide investment advice to clients ("advisory persons") are registered representatives of Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments, Inc. ("PKS") a FINRA-registered broker-dealer and member of SIPC.

Advisory personnel of the Firm implement securities transactions, acting in their capacity as registered representatives, on a commission basis through PKS. In such instances, the advisory personnel will receive commission-based compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities, as well as a share of any ongoing distribution or service (trail) fees, including 12b-1 fees for the sale of investment company



products. Compensation earned by the advisory person in his or her capacity as a registered representative is separate from and in addition to Pasadena's advisory fee charged on client assets held in advisory accounts. The receipt of such compensation by an advisory person presents a conflict of interest, as an advisory person who is a registered representative has an incentive to effect securities transactions for the purpose of generating commissions and 12b-1 fees rather than solely based on client needs. Moreover, clients may be able to obtain these products less expensively through sources other than PKS that do not generate compensation for the advisory person. Pasadena addresses this conflict through disclosure and additionally notes that the Firm does not charge advisory fees on assets where the Firm's advisory personnel, acting in their capacity as registered representatives, receive brokerage compensation (e.g., it does not "double dip"). Pasadena additionally notes that clients are under no obligation to purchase securities products through PKS or Firm advisory persons, may choose brokers or agents not affiliated with Pasadena or PKS, and in some cases could purchase products directly from fund companies without paying brokerage compensation. Pasadena and its advisory personnel endeavor to provide clients with the benefit of wholistic advice on all assets for which the Firm and its personnel are compensated, including compensation through brokerage commissions and 12b-1 trails.

Advisory persons of Pasadena are licensed as insurance professionals. Such persons earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products to clients. Insurance commissions earned by advisory persons who are insurance professionals are separate from and in addition to Pasadena's advisory fee. This practice presents a conflict of interest as an advisory person who is an insurance professional has an incentive to recommend insurance products for the purpose of generating commissions rather than solely based on client needs. Pasadena strives to make recommendations which are in the best interests of its clients. Clients are under no obligation to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with Pasadena.

#### **Item 6 - Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management**

Pasadena does not charge performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Performance-based fees are fees that are based on a share of a capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's account. Side-by-side management refers to the practice of managing accounts that are charged performance-based fees while at the same time managing accounts that are not charged performance-based fees. Pasadena's fees are calculated as described in Item 5 above.

#### **Item 7 - Types of Clients**

Pasadena offers investment advisory services to individuals, including high net worth individuals, families, family offices, trusts, businesses, charitable foundations, and retirement/profit-sharing plans.

#### **Item 8 - Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies, and Risk of Loss**

##### **A. Methods of Analysis and Risk of Loss**

A primary step in Pasadena's investment strategy is getting to know the clients – to understand their financial condition, risk profile, investment goals, tax situation, liquidity constraints – and assemble a complete picture of their financial situation. To aid in this understanding, Pasadena offers clients financial

planning that is highly customized and tailored. This comprehensive approach is integral to the way that Pasadena does business. Once Pasadena has a true understanding of its clients' needs and goals, the investment process can begin, and the Firm can recommend strategies and investments that it believes are aligned with the client's goals and risk profile.

Pasadena primarily employs fundamental analysis methods in developing investment strategies for its clients. Research and analysis from Pasadena is based on numerous sources, including third-party research materials and publicly-available materials, such as company annual reports, prospectuses, and press releases.

Pasadena generally employs a long-term investment strategy for its clients, as consistent with their financial goals. At times, the Firm may also buy and sell positions that are more short-term in nature, depending on the goals of the client and/or the fundamentals of the security, sector or asset class.

Client portfolios with similar investment objectives and asset allocation goals may own different securities and investments. The client's portfolio size, tax sensitivity, desire for simplicity, income needs, long-term wealth transfer objectives, time horizon and choice of custodian are all factors that influence Pasadena's investment recommendations.

Investing in securities involves a risk of loss. A client can lose all or a substantial portion of his/her investment. A client should be willing to bear such a loss. Some investments are intended only for sophisticated investors and can involve a high degree of risk.

## **B. Material Risks Involved**

The individual equity and fixed income securities, mutual funds, ETFs and External Managers that the Firm frequently invests client assets with or recommends to clients generally own securities and therefore also involve the risk of loss that is inherent in investing in securities and which clients should be prepared to bear.

The extent of the risk of ownership of fund shares generally depends on the type and number of securities held by the fund. Mutual funds invested in fixed income securities are subject to the same interest rate, inflation, and credit risks associated with the fund's underlying bond holdings. Fixed income securities may decrease in value as a result of many factors, for example, increases in interest rates or adverse developments with respect to the creditworthiness of the issuer. Risks also may be significantly increased if a mutual fund pursues an alternative investment strategy. An investment in an alternative mutual fund involves special risks such as risk associated with short sales, leveraging the investment, potential adverse market forces, regulatory changes, and potential illiquidity. Investing in alternative strategies presents the opportunity for significant losses. Returns on mutual fund investments are reduced by management costs and expenses.

An ETF's risks include declining value of the securities held by the ETF, adverse developments in the specific industry or sector that the ETF tracks, capital loss in geographically focused funds because of unfavorable fluctuation in currency exchange rates, differences in generally accepted accounting principles, or economic or political instability, tracking error, which is the difference between the return of the ETF

and the return of its benchmark and trading at a premium or discount, meaning the difference between the ETF's market price and NAV. ETFs also are subject to the individual risks described in their prospectus. Although many mutual funds and ETFs may provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased if a mutual fund or ETF is concentrated in a particular sector of the market, primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security. One of the main advantages of mutual funds and ETFs is that they give individual investors access to professionally managed, diversified portfolios of equities, bonds and other securities.

Although the goal of diversification is to combine investments with different characteristics so that the risks inherent in any one investment can be balanced by assets that move in different cycles or respond to different market factors, diversification does not eliminate the risk of loss. In some circumstances, price movements may be highly correlated across securities and funds. A specific fund may not be diversified and a client portfolio may not be diversified. Additionally, when diversification is a client objective, there is risk that the strategies that the Firm uses may not be successful in achieving the desired level of diversification. There is also risk that the strategies, resources, and analytical methods that the Firm uses to identify mutual funds and ETFs will not be successful in identifying investment opportunities.

The following events also could cause mutual funds, ETFs, equities and fixed income securities and other investments managed for clients, as well as those managed by External Managers, to decrease in value:

- Market Risk: The price of an equity security, bond, or mutual fund may drop in reaction to tangible and intangible events and conditions. This type of risk is caused by external factors independent of a security's particular underlying circumstances. For example, changes in political, economic and social conditions may trigger adverse market events.
- Interest-rate Risk: Fluctuations in interest rates may cause investment prices to fluctuate. For example, when interest rates rise, yields on existing bonds become less attractive, causing their market values to decline.
- Event Risk: An adverse event affecting a particular company or that company's industry could depress the price of a client's investments in that company's stocks or bonds. The company, government or other entity that issued bonds in a client's portfolio could become less able to, or fail to, repay, service or refinance its debts, or the issuer's credit rating could be downgraded by a rating agency. Adverse events affecting a particular country, including political and economic instability, could depress the value of investments in issuers headquartered or doing business in that country.
- Liquidity Risk: Securities that are normally liquid may become difficult or impossible to sell at an acceptable price during periods of economic instability or other emergency conditions. Some securities may be infrequently or thinly traded even under normal market conditions.
- Leverage Risk: The use of leverage may lead to increased volatility of a fund's NAV and market price relative to its common shares. Leverage is likely to magnify any losses in the fund's portfolio, which may lead to increased market price declines. Fluctuations in interest rates on borrowings or

the dividend rates on preferred shares that take place from changes in short- term interest rates may reduce the return to common shareholders or result in fluctuations in the dividends paid on common shares. There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.

- Domestic and/or Foreign Political Risk: The events that occur in the U.S. relating to politics, government, and elections can affect the U.S. markets. Political events occurring in the home country of a foreign company such as revolutions, nationalization, and currency collapse can have an impact on the security.
- Inflation Risk: Countries around the globe may be more, or less, prone to inflation than the U.S. economy at any given time. Companies operating in countries with higher inflation rates may find it more difficult to post profits reflecting its underlying health.
- Currency Risk: Overseas investments are subject to fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar against the currency of the investment's originating country. This is also referred to as exchange rate risk.
- Reinvestment Risk: This risk is that future proceeds from investments may have to be reinvested at a potentially lower rate of return (i.e., interest rate). This primarily relates to fixed income securities.
- Operational Risk: Fund Advisors and other ETF service providers may experience disruptions or operating errors such as processing errors or human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, or systems or technology failures, that could negatively impact the ETF.
- Regulatory/Legislative Developments Risk: Regulators and/or legislators may promulgate rules or pass legislation that places restrictions on, adds procedural hurdles to, affects the liquidity of, and/or alters the risks associated with certain investment transactions or the securities underlying such investment transactions. Such rules/legislation could affect the value associated with such investment transactions or underlying securities
- Illiquid Securities: Investments in hedge funds and other private investment funds may underperform publicly offered and traded securities because such investments:
  - typically require investors to lock-up their assets for a period and may be unable to meet redemption requests during adverse economic conditions;
  - Have limited or no liquidity because of restrictions on the transfer of, and the absence of a market for, interests in these funds;
  - Are more difficult for to monitor and value due to a lack of transparency and publicly available information about these funds;
  - May have higher expense ratios and involve more inherent conflicts of interest than publicly traded investments; and

- Involve different risks than investing in registered funds and other publicly offered and traded securities. These risks may include those associated with more concentrated, less diversified investment portfolios, investment leverage and investments in less liquid and non-traditional asset classes.
- Risks Associated with Options Trading. Investments in options contracts have the risk of losing value in a relatively short period of time. Options are investments whose ultimate value is determined from the value of the underlying investment. Option contracts are leveraged instruments that allow the holder of a single contract to control many shares of an underlying stock. This leverage can compound gains or losses.

#### Cybersecurity:

The computer systems, networks and devices used by Pasadena and service providers to us and our clients to carry out routine business operations employ a variety of protections designed to prevent damage or interruption from computer viruses, network failures, computer and telecommunication failures, infiltration by unauthorized persons and security breaches. Despite the various protections utilized, systems, networks, or devices potentially can be breached. A client could be negatively impacted as a result of a cybersecurity breach.

Cybersecurity breaches can include unauthorized access to systems, networks, or devices; infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code; and attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. Cybersecurity breaches may cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to a client; impediments to trading; the inability by us and other service providers to transact business; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs; as well as the inadvertent release of confidential information.

Similar adverse consequences could result from cybersecurity breaches affecting issuers of securities in which a client invests; governmental and other regulatory authorities; exchange and other financial market operators, banks, brokers, dealers, and other financial institutions; and other parties. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred by these entities in order to prevent any cybersecurity breaches in the future.

#### Risks Associated with Closed-End Funds

Closed-end funds typically use a high degree of leverage. They may be diversified or non-diversified. Risks associated with closed-end fund investments include liquidity risk, credit risk, volatility and the risk of magnified losses resulting from the use of leverage. Additionally, closed-end funds may trade below their net asset value.

### Risks Associated with Structured Notes

- Complexity. Structured notes are complex financial instruments. Clients should understand the reference asset(s) or index(es) and determine how the note's payoff structure incorporates such reference asset(s) or index(es) in calculating the note's performance. This payoff calculation may include leverage multiplied on the performance of the reference asset or index, protection from losses should the reference asset or index produce negative returns, and fees. Structured notes may have complicated payoff structures that can make it difficult for clients to accurately assess their value, risk and potential for growth through the term of the structured note. Determining the performance of each note can be complex and this calculation can vary significantly from note to note depending on the structure. Notes can be structured in a wide variety of ways. Payoff structures can be leveraged, inverse, or inverse-leveraged, which may result in larger returns or losses. Clients should carefully read the prospectus for a structured note to fully understand how the payoff on a note will be calculated and discuss these issues with Pasadena.
- Market risk. Some structured notes provide for the repayment of principal at maturity, which is often referred to as "principal protection." This principal protection is subject to the credit risk of the issuing financial institution. Many structured notes do not offer this feature. For structured notes that do not offer principal protection, the performance of the linked asset or index may cause clients to lose some, or all, of their principal. Depending on the nature of the linked asset or index, the market risk of the structured note may include changes in equity or commodity prices, changes in interest rates or foreign exchange rates, and/or market volatility.
- Issuance price and note value. The price of a structured note at issuance will likely be higher than the fair value of the structured note on the date of issuance. Issuers now generally disclose an estimated value of the structured note on the cover page of the offering prospectus, allowing investors to gauge the difference between the issuer's estimated value of the note and the issuance price. The estimated value of the notes is likely lower than the issuance price of the note to investors because issuers include the costs for selling, structuring and/or hedging the exposure on the note in the initial price of their notes. After issuance, structured notes may not be re-sold on a daily basis and thus may be difficult to value given their complexity.
- Liquidity. The ability to trade or sell structured notes in a secondary market is often very limited as structured notes (other than exchange-traded notes known as ETNs) are not listed for trading on security exchanges. As a result, the only potential buyer for a structured note may be the issuing financial institution's broker-dealer affiliate or the broker-dealer distributor of the structured note. In addition, issuers often specifically disclaim their intention to repurchase or make markets in the notes they issue. Clients should, therefore, be prepared to hold a structured note to its maturity date, or risk selling the note at a discount to its value at the time of sale.
- Credit risk. Structured notes are unsecured debt obligations of the issuer, meaning that the issuer is obligated to make payments on the notes as promised. These promises, including any principal protection, are only as good as the financial health of the structured note issuer. If the structured

note issuer defaults on these obligations, investors may lose some, or all, of the principal amount they invested in the structured notes as well as any other payments that may be due on the structured notes.

Past performance of a security or a fund is not necessarily indicative of future performance or risk of loss.

### **Use of Independent Managers**

Pasadena may select certain External Managers to manage a portion of its clients' assets. In these situations, the success of such recommendations rely to a great extent on the External Managers' ability to successfully implement their investment strategies. In addition, Pasadena generally may not have the ability to supervise the External Managers on a day-to-day basis.

### **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisors are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a client's evaluation of Pasadena and the integrity of Pasadena's management. Pasadena has no information applicable to this Item.

### **Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

#### **Recommendation of External Managers**

Pasadena may recommend that clients use External Managers based on the client's needs and suitability. Pasadena does not receive separate compensation, directly or indirectly, from such external managers for recommending that clients use their services. Pasadena does not have any other business relationships with the recommended External Managers.

#### **Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments, Inc.**

Certain Firm representatives who provide investment advice to clients ("advisory persons") are registered representatives of Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments, Inc. ("PKS") a FINRA-registered broker-dealer and member of SIPC.

Advisory personnel of the Firm implement securities transactions, acting in their capacity as registered representatives, on a commission basis through PKS. In such instances, the advisory personnel will receive commission-based compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities, as well as a share of any ongoing distribution or service (trail) fees, including 12b-1 fees for the sale of investment company products. Compensation earned by the advisory person in his or her capacity as a registered representative is separate from and in addition to Pasadena's advisory fee charged on client assets held in advisory accounts. The receipt of such compensation by an advisory person presents a conflict of interest, as an advisory person who is a registered representative has an incentive to effect securities transactions for the purpose of generating commissions and 12b-1 fees rather than solely based on client needs. Moreover, clients may be able to obtain these products less expensively through sources other than PKS that do not generate compensation for the advisory person. Pasadena addresses this conflict through disclosure and additionally notes that the Firm does not charge advisory fees on assets where the Firm's advisory personnel, acting in their capacity as registered representatives, receive brokerage compensation (e.g., it



does not “double dip”). Pasadena additionally notes that clients are under no obligation to purchase securities products through PKS or Firm advisory persons, may choose brokers or agents not affiliated with Pasadena or PKS, and in some cases could purchase products directly from fund companies without paying brokerage compensation. Pasadena and its advisory personnel endeavor to provide clients with the benefit of wholistic advice on all assets for which the Firm and its personnel are compensated, including compensation through brokerage commissions and 12b-1 trails.

#### Licensed Insurance Professionals

Advisory persons of Pasadena are licensed as insurance professionals. Such persons earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products to clients. Insurance commissions earned by advisory persons who are insurance professionals are separate from and in addition to Pasadena’s advisory fee. This practice presents a conflict of interest as an advisory person who is an insurance professional has an incentive to recommend insurance products for the purpose of generating commissions rather than solely based on client needs. Pasadena strives to make recommendations which are in the best interests of its clients. Clients are under no obligation to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with Pasadena.

### **Item 11 – Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions**

#### **A. Description of Code of Ethics**

Pasadena has a Code of Ethics (the “Code”) which requires Pasadena’s employees (“supervised persons”) to comply with their legal obligations and fulfill the fiduciary duties owed to the Firm’s clients. Among other things, the Code of Ethics sets forth policies and procedures related to conflicts of interest, outside business activities, gifts and entertainment, compliance with insider trading laws and policies and procedures governing personal securities trading by supervised persons.

Personal securities transactions of supervised persons present potential conflicts of interest with the price obtained in client securities transactions or the investment opportunity available to clients. The Code addresses these potential conflicts by prohibiting securities trades that would breach a fiduciary duty to a client and requiring, with certain exceptions, supervised persons to report their personal securities holdings and transactions to Pasadena for review by the Firm’s Chief Compliance Officer. The Code also requires supervised persons to obtain pre-approval of certain investments, including initial public offerings and limited offerings.

Pasadena will provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

### **Item 12 – Brokerage Practices**

#### **A. Factors Used to Select Custodians and/or Broker-Dealers**

Pasadena generally recommends that its investment management clients utilize the custody and brokerage services of an unaffiliated broker/dealer custodians (a “BD/Custodian”) with which Pasadena has an institutional relationship. Currently, this includes Fidelity Clearing and Custody Solutions, a division of Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC (“Fidelity”), which is a “Qualified Custodian” as that term is described



in Rule 206(4)-2 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Each BD/Custodian provides custody of securities, trade execution, and clearance and settlement of transactions placed by Pasadena. If your accounts are custodied at Fidelity, Fidelity will hold your assets in a brokerage account and buy and sell securities when we instruct them to.

In deciding to recommend Fidelity, some of the factors that Pasadena considers include:

- Trade order execution and the ability to provide accurate and timely execution of trades;
- The reasonableness and competitiveness of commissions and other transaction costs;
- Access to a broad range of investment products;
- Access to trading desks;
- Technology that integrates within Pasadena's environment, including interfacing with Pasadena's portfolio management system;
- A dedicated service or back office team and its ability to process requests from Pasadena on behalf of its clients;
- Ability to provide Pasadena with access to client account information through an institutional website; and
- Ability to provide clients with electronic access to account information and investment and research tools.

Pasadena generally places portfolio transactions through the BD/Custodian where the clients' accounts are custodied. In exchange for using the services of the BD/Custodian, Pasadena may receive, without cost, computer software and related systems support that allows Pasadena to monitor and service its clients' accounts maintained with such BD/Custodian.

Fidelity also makes available to the Firm products and services that benefit the Firm but may not directly benefit the client or the client's account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering client accounts. They include investment research, both Fidelity's own and that of third parties. Pasadena may use this research to service all or some substantial number of client accounts, including accounts not maintained at Fidelity. In addition to investment research, Fidelity also makes available software and other technology that:

- provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements);
- facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts;
- provide pricing and other market data;
- facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts; and
- assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting.

Fidelity also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:

- educational conferences and events;

- technology, compliance, legal, and business consulting;
- publications and conferences on practice management and business succession; and
- access to employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, and insurance providers.

Fidelity may provide some of these services itself. In other cases, it will arrange for third-party vendors to provide the services to the Firm. Fidelity may also discount or waive its fees for some of these services or pay all or a part of a third party's fees. Fidelity may also provide the Firm with other benefits such as occasional business entertainment of Firm personnel.

Transition-related expenses: In connection with the launch of Pasadena, Fidelity has agreed to provide Pasadena with reimbursement of transition-related expenses approved by Fidelity in amounts that will not exceed \$475,000. Fidelity has agreed to provide these benefits to Pasadena on the expectation that Pasadena clients will convert to the Fidelity platform an expected level of total assets, including assets that would pay 12b-1 fees to Fidelity, securities-transaction related charges, and other revenues that Fidelity expects to receive from Pasadena clients. Clients who are invested in mutual funds which pay 12b-1 fees will pay more in expenses and likely will have lower returns than clients who are invested in mutual funds that have similar investment strategies and holdings, but do not pay 12b-1 fees.

The reimbursement of transition-related expenses by Fidelity presents a conflict of interest because it will be used for the payment of expenses that do not directly benefit client accounts. The financial benefits received from Fidelity do not reduce the investment management fees clients pay to Pasadena. These products and services from Fidelity benefit Pasadena in that Pasadena does not have to purchase them. The benefits provide an incentive for Pasadena to routinely recommend Fidelity as custodian over custodians who do not offer such products and services. Pasadena addressed this conflict through this disclosure and by reviewing the pricing of fees, expenses and quality of services offered by Fidelity and determining that the recommendation of Fidelity is in the best interest of clients.

Pasadena may offer certain qualified clients trading services which gives Pasadena the ability to execute trades through PKS or other broker-dealers when placing securities transactions on behalf of clients with assets custodied at a BD/Custodian. In such instances where Pasadena trades away from a BD/Custodian, the account will incur a trade-away fee from a BD/Custodian for each transaction that is executed on a trade-away basis. The fee is separate from the commission/transaction fee or mark-up/mark-down imposed by the broker-dealer through which the trade was executed.

Trading away may be advantageous for the client because:

- the broker-dealer may have expertise in a particular security or market;
- the broker-dealer makes a market in a particular security;
- a particular security is thinly traded; or
- the broker-dealer can identify a counter-party for a trade.

Pasadena will periodically review its arrangements with the BD/Custodians and other broker-dealers against other possible arrangements in the marketplace as it strives to achieve best execution on behalf of its clients. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether

the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a broker-dealer's trading expertise, including its ability to complete trades, execute and settle difficult trades, obtain liquidity to minimize market impact and accommodate unusual market conditions, maintain anonymity, and account for its trade errors and correct them in a satisfactory manner;
- a broker-dealer's infrastructure, including order-entry systems, adequate lines of communication, timely order execution reports, an efficient and accurate clearance and settlement process, and capacity to accommodate unusual trading volume;
- a broker-dealer's ability to minimize total trading costs while maintaining its financial health, such as whether a broker-dealer can maintain and commit adequate capital when necessary to complete trades, respond during volatile market periods, and minimize the number of incomplete trades;
- a broker-dealer's ability to provide research and execution services, including advice as to the value or advisability of investing in or selling securities, analyses and reports concerning such matters as companies, industries, economic trends and political factors, or services incidental to executing securities trades, including clearance, settlement and custody; and
- a broker-dealer's ability to provide services to accommodate special transaction needs, such as the broker-dealer's ability to execute and account for client-directed arrangements and soft dollar arrangements, participate in underwriting syndicates, and obtain initial public offering shares.

As described above, Fidelity provides to Pasadena, without cost, research and trade execution services. Fidelity makes these services available to similarly situated investment advisers whose clients custody their assets with Fidelity. Access to research and trade execution services is not predicated on the execution of client securities transactions (e.g., not "soft dollars.") Pasadena has not entered into any formal "soft dollar" arrangements with broker-dealers.

Pasadena's clients may utilize qualified custodians other than Fidelity for certain accounts and assets, particularly where clients have a previous relationship with such qualified custodians.

#### Brokerage for Client Referrals

Pasadena does not select or recommend broker-dealers based solely on whether or not it may receive client referrals from a broker-dealer or third party.

#### Client-Directed Brokerage

Generally, in the absence of specific instructions to the contrary, for brokerage accounts that clients engage Pasadena to manage on a discretionary basis, Pasadena has full discretion with respect to securities transactions placed in the accounts. This discretion includes the authority, without prior notice to the client, to buy and sell securities for the client's account and establish and affect securities transactions through the BD/Custodian of the client's account or other broker-dealers selected by Pasadena. In selecting a broker-

dealer to execute a client's securities transactions, Pasadena seeks prompt execution of orders at favorable prices.

A client, however, may instruct Pasadena to custody his/her account at a specific broker-dealer and/or direct some or all of his/her brokerage transactions to a specific broker-dealer. In directing brokerage transactions, a client should consider whether the commission expenses, execution, clearance, settlement capabilities, and custodian fees, if any, are comparable to those that would result if Pasadena exercised its discretion in selecting the broker-dealer to execute the transactions. Directing brokerage to a particular broker-dealer may involve the following disadvantages to a directed brokerage client:

- Pasadena's ability to negotiate commission rates and other terms on behalf of such clients could be impaired;
- such clients could be denied the benefit of Pasadena's experience in selecting broker-dealers that are able to efficiently execute difficult trades;
- opportunities to obtain lower transaction costs and better prices by aggregating (batching) the client's orders with orders for other clients could be limited; and
- the client could receive less favorable prices on securities transactions because Pasadena may place transaction orders for directed brokerage clients after placing batched transaction orders for other clients.

In addition to accounts managed by Pasadena on a discretionary basis where the client has directed the brokerage of his/her account(s), certain institutional accounts may be managed by Pasadena on a non-discretionary basis and are held at custodians selected by the institutional client. The decision to use a particular custodian and/or broker-dealer generally resides with the institutional client. Pasadena endeavors to understand the trading and execution capabilities of any such custodian and/or broker-dealer, as well as its costs and fees. Pasadena may assist the institutional client in facilitating trading and other instructions to the custodian and/or broker-dealer in carrying out Pasadena's investment recommendations.

#### Trade Errors

Pasadena's goal is to execute trades seamlessly and in the best interests of the client. In the event a trade error occurs, Pasadena endeavors to identify the error in a timely manner, correct the error so that the client's account is in the position it would have been had the error not occurred, and, after evaluating the error, assess what action(s) might be necessary to prevent a recurrence of similar errors in the future.

Trade errors generally are corrected through the use of a "trade error" account or similar account at Fidelity, or another BD, as the case may be. In the event an error is made in a client account custodied elsewhere, Pasadena works directly with the broker in question to take corrective action. In all cases, Pasadena will take the appropriate measures to return the client's account to its intended position.

### **B. Trade Aggregation**

To the extent that the Firm determines to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which the Firm's supervised persons may invest, the Firm will generally do so in a

fair equitable manner in accordance with applicable rules promulgated under the Advisers Act and guidance provided by the staff of the SEC and consistent with policies and procedures established by the Firm.

### **Item 13 – Review of Accounts**

#### **A. Frequency and Nature of Periodic Reviews and Who Makes Those Reviews**

Pasadena monitors investment advisory portfolios as part of a continuous and ongoing process. Pasadena advisors seek at least one annual meeting with each client to conduct a formal review the clients' accounts. These reviews may include the following:

- compare the account's allocation with stated goals and client cash-flows at time of review;
- review holdings and consider alternatives;
- monitor the size of individual securities relevant to their sectors, asset classes, and overall account size;
- analyze an account's composition and performance, income, appreciation, gains/losses, and asset allocation; and
- assess its performance.

Factors that may trigger an additional review, other than a periodic review, include: material market, economic or political events, known significant changes in a client's financial situation and/or objectives, and large deposits or withdrawals from the accounts. Clients are encouraged to notify Pasadena if changes occur in the client's personal financial situation that might adversely affect the client's investment plan.

#### **B. Other Reviews**

Pasadena may perform compliance and/or supervisory reviews of a sampling of client accounts. These reviews may include comparing an account's strategy and/or allocation to the account's stated objectives, reviewing commission and transaction costs borne by the account, and reviewing the billing rate and charges.

#### **C. Content and Frequency of Regular Reports Provided to Clients**

Clients will receive brokerage statements no less than quarterly from the qualified custodian. These brokerage statements are sent directly from the custodian to the client. The client may also establish electronic access to the custodian's website so that the Client may view these reports and their account activity. Client brokerage statements will include all positions, transactions and fees relating to the client's account[s]. The client advisor may also provide clients with periodic reports regarding their holdings, allocations, and performance.

### **Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

#### **A. Economic Benefits Provided by Third Parties for Advice Rendered to Clients**

Pasadena does not receive benefits from third parties for providing investment advice to clients.

**B. Compensation to non-Supervised Persons for Client Referrals**

Pasadena does not currently have referral arrangements with solicitors, but may in the future enter into referral arrangements with unaffiliated individuals who may from time-to-time refer potential investors to Pasadena for investment management services and be compensated for successful referrals by receiving a percentage of the advisory fee Pasadena receives from such clients. Any such arrangements must be in compliance with Rule 206(4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act.

**Item 15 – Custody**

All clients must utilize a “qualified custodian” as detailed in item 12. Clients are required to engage the custodian to retain their funds and securities and direct Pasadena to utilize the custodian for the client’s securities transactions. Pasadena’s agreement with clients and/or the clients’ separate agreement with the B/D Custodian may authorize Pasadena through such BD/Custodian to debit the client’s account for the amount of Pasadena’s fee and to directly remit that fee to Pasadena in accordance with applicable custody rules.

The BD/Custodian recommended by Pasadena has agreed to send a statement to the client, at least quarterly, indicating all amounts disbursed from the account including the amount of management fees paid directly to Pasadena. Pasadena encourages clients to review the official statements provided by the custodian, and to compare such statements with investment reports received from Pasadena. For more information about Custodians and brokerage practices, see “Item 12 - Brokerage Practices.”

**Item 16 – Investment Discretion**

Clients have the option of providing Pasadena with investment discretion on their behalf, pursuant to a grant of a limited power of attorney contained in Pasadena’s client agreement. By granting Pasadena investment discretion, a client authorizes Pasadena to direct securities transactions and determine which securities are bought and sold, the total amount to be bought and sold, and the costs at which the transactions will be effected. Clients may impose reasonable limitations in the form of specific constraints on any of these areas of discretion with the consent and written acknowledgement of Pasadena. See also Item 4(C), Client-Tailored Advisory Services.

**Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

Pasadena does not accept the authority to and does not vote proxies on behalf of clients. Clients retain the responsibility for receiving and voting proxies for all and any securities maintained in client portfolios.

**Item 18 – Financial Information****A. Balance Sheet**

Pasadena does not require prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, and therefore does not need to include a balance sheet with this Brochure.

**B. Financial Conditions Reasonably Likely to Impair Ability to Meet Contractual Commitments to Clients**

Neither Pasadena nor its management has any financial conditions that are reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

**C. Bankruptcy Petitions in Previous Years**

Pasadena has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.